

[54] **DISPLAY PANEL OPEN/CLOSED
DETECTION MECHANISM, AND
PORTABLE ELECTRONIC APPARATUS
USING THE SAME**

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200/61.7

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250/229

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A portable computer includes a main body containing a large number of electronic parts, a display panel including a flat display device and pivotal between a first position overlapping the main body and a second position separated from the main body, a hinge mechanism for pivotally coupling the main body and the display panel, a lock mechanism which non-pivotally locks the main body and the display panel at the first position of the display panel, and can be manually released, and a photosensor unit for detecting the position of the display panel with respect to the main body so as to cut off power supply to the display panel when the display panel is located at the first position, and to allow power supply to the display panel when the display panel is located at the second position.

6 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets

